
LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

HISTORY

Earliest records, dating back to 1949, indicate that 59 facilities were classified as nursing homes. By 1953, the number of nursing homes and homes for the aged had increased to 100. Two classifications of facilities remained until 1965 when four categories of care were used (intensive care, nursing care, intermediate care and supervised living). In 1974, the classifications of skilled nursing, intermediate nursing, and supervised personal care were first used.

In 1986, Governor William J. Janklow established the South Dakota Task Force on Long Term Care through Executive Order 86-05. The basis for appointing the task force was the perception that the existing system was not adequately addressing the long-term care needs of the elderly in a fiscally responsible manner. The task force was charged with identifying the most critical problems in the long-term care delivery system and providing recommendations to the Governor. As a result, the task force developed a goal for the state for delivery of long-term care services, which would address the actual needs of the elderly, and promote their health, independence, and functional ability. Ten recommendations were presented to the Governor for consideration ranging from a pre-admission assessment pilot and enhanced geriatric education and training, to a modification of the certificate of need program.

From 1986 to 1988, there were significant changes in the delivery of long-term care services in South Dakota. These changes resulted from the 1986 task force and Governor George S. Mickelson's 1988 elderly initiative. There were six areas of significant change in Governor George S. Mickelson's plan including the repeal of the certificate of need in 1988 and the introduction of a three year moratorium on long-term care bed growth.

Since 1988, the moratorium has been extended five times – in 1991, 1993, 1995, 2000, and 2005 when it was extended indefinitely. As a result of the moratorium and the other elder initiatives identified from the 1986 task force and Governor Mickleson's plan, South Dakota was able to develop a system of long term care that offers a full range of services, both in-home and community-based, as well as institutional care.

The 1991 South Dakota legislature changed the term "supervised personal care facility" to "assisted living center." Also in 1991, the moratorium on assisted living center beds, formerly known as supervised living, was lifted and a total of 138 assisted living beds were converted to skilled nursing beds.

In 1994, South Dakota Codified Law 34-12 and Administrative Rules of South Dakota 44:04 still provided for the licensing of nursing homes as both skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities, however, in 1995, South Dakota Codified law and rules were updated so they no longer distinguish between skilled and intermediate nursing facilities. This bill simply amended § 34-12-1.1 to change the term "nursing home" to "nursing facility." This change made this chapter consistent with federal government and

LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

Department of Social Services terminology relating to nursing facilities. It also eliminated the reference to intermediate care facilities since this classification of nursing facility was no longer in use.

Between 1997 and 2006, the state has seen rapid growth in alternative services for the elderly. Between 1997 and 2006, licensed assisted living beds increased by 115.8 percent from 1,623 to 3,502 beds.